

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for treating a bone condition associated with breakdown of bone tissue or bone loss, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least [[90%]] 95% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3, wherein the peptide promotes osteoblast proliferation.

2-10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3 with ~~up to 3~~ 1 conservative amino acid substitution[[s]].

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently amended) A method for increasing or maintaining bone density, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least [[90%]] 95% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3, wherein the peptide promotes osteoblast proliferation.

14-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The method of claim 13, wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3 with ~~up to 3~~ 1 conservative amino acid substitution[[s]].

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Currently amended) A method for stimulating osteoblast growth or inhibiting osteoblast apoptosis, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a peptide comprising an amino acid sequence that is at least [[90%]] 95% identical to SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3, wherein the peptide promotes osteoblast proliferation.

26-34. (Canceled)

35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 25, wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3 with ~~up to 3~~ 1 conservative amino acid substitution[[s]].

36-53. (Cancelled)

54. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3.

55. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the peptide consists of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3.

56. (Cancelled)

57. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3.

58. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 13, wherein the peptide consists of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3.

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the peptide comprises SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3.

61. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the peptide consists of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, or 3.